

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

In the world of graded index optical fibers, our claimed manufacturing methods overcome a “weakness” to the use of high power laser light, such as from a YAG laser. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to recite that the claimed methods relate to base materials for an optical fiber through which a high power laser transmits high power light. The feature added to these claims is supported by the introductory part of the application specification as originally filed (see pages 1-3). Thus, no new matter is added.

Claims 1 and 8 are directed to methods for manufacturing a glass base material for a particular use – namely high power (referred to as “enormous power” in the passage set forth below by the original translator from Japanese into English). The problem is set forth in the introductory part of our application, particularly at page 3 lines 19-25:

*“if using the germanium doped GI type optical fiber for a high power YAG laser, the strength of the optical fiber can deteriorate. Thus, an **enormous power** from the light is passed through the optical fiber when the light of the YAG laser is input to the optical fiber. Therefore, there might be a danger of breaking an optical fiber when passing the light of the YAG laser through the optical fiber,”*

Claims 1-2, 4-6 and 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,217,516 (Ishiguro et al.). According to the Examiner, Ishiguro Figure 1 (reproduced below) shows both of our claimed manufacturing steps.

Ishiguro et al. do not specifically teach or even suggest a benefit such as described in our specification and now set forth in claims 1 and 8 regarding a particular use.

For the above reason, the applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1 and 8, as amended herein, distinguish over Ishiguro et al.

For the same reasons, the rejection of claims 3 and 7 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishiguro – 5217516 is also respectfully traversed.

* * *


If any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 that are due in connection with this filing, are missing or inadequate please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 034103.005.

If the extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is not accounted for in the papers filed herewith, such an extension is requested and the extension fee should be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 034103.005.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:



Glenn J. Perry, Reg. No. 28,458
1850 M Street, NW – Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
Telephone: 202/973-2611
Facsimile: 202/263-4311

Date: April 29, 2005

GJP:nlh